GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3340
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2005
PARTICIPATION OF PRIVATE COMPANIES IN COAL MINING
Majhi Shri Parsuram;Mane Smt. Nivedita;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan;Yadav Shri Anirudh Prasad (Sadhu)

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private companies have not been forthcoming to undertake captive mining of coal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to attract private companies in coal mining;

(d) whether the Government proposes to modify the guidelines and amend the act to attract more private companies;

(e) if so, the details of the guidelines; and

(f) the blocks identified for allocation to private sector ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise in view of the answer given to part (a) of the question.

(c) to (e): A Bill, namely, the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000 which seeks to allow mining of coal to any Indian company without the restriction of captive use, was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 24.4.2000 and is pending for consideration. Also under the existing policy of captive mining, in order to ensure timely commissioning of the end use project, the Government has decided to allow early development of associated captive coal mining block so that by the time the end use project is ready in stages the coal mine could have reached full capacity of coal production to meet the coal requirement of the end use plant. Since the mine has to be developed to its full capacity over a period of time, coal is produced during the development period, while the end use plant may not be in place. Therefore, Government has allowed transfer of surplus coal extracted from the captive mine during the development period to the local Coal India subsidiary company to avoid the hazards of storing of coal for long periods.

(f): Government has identified 146 coal blocks for allocation to private/public sector specified end-users of coal out of which 86 blocks stand allocated/ have been decided for allocation.